(THE SECRETARY).

The following Acts have received the assent of the President on the dates specified against them subsequent to the report made during the previous Session :—

1. The Mysore Lotteries and Prize Competitions Control and Tax Act, 1951 (Mysore Act No. XXVII of 1951). — 21st June 1951
2. The Mysore Prevention of Adulteration (Amendment) Act, 1951 (Mysore Act No. XXVIII of 1951). — Do
3. The Mysore Warehouses Act, 1951 (Mysore Act No. XXIX of 1951) ... — 7th August 1951
4. The Mysore House Rent and Accommodation Control Act, 1951 (Mysore Act No. XXX of 1951). — 16th August 1951

STATEMENTS BY THE HON'BLE SPEAKER.

Re: President withholding assent to Mysore Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill 1951.

MR. SPEAKER (The Hon'ble Sri V. Venkatappa).—I have to inform the Hon'ble Members that the Mysore Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill, 1951, which was passed by this Assembly on the 24th January, 1951, was reserved by His Highness the Maharaja for the consideration of the President under article 200 of the Constitution read with article 254 (2). The President has withheld his assent from the Bill on the ground that the Mysore Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, 1944, which the Bill proposed to amend, stands repealed by virtue of Section 6 of the Part B States (Laws) Act, 1951 (III of 1951).

Re: Questions under the New Rules of Procedure.

MR. SPEAKER (The Hon'ble Sri V. Venkatappa).—As Hon'ble Members are aware, under the new Rules of Procedure which have now come into force, the procedure in regard to questions has been somewhat changed. Firstly, the distinction between starred and unstarred questions has been removed so that every question which is admitted will come up for answer in the House and will entitle Hon'ble Members to put supplementaries on every question. The more important change effected however is that embodied in Rule 29. This rule has been put in to ensure that all the questions tabled for a Session are answered by the Government. Under this rule, as far as possible, replies to as many questions for each day as would dispose of all the questions during the Session have to be furnished by the Government. For example 295 questions have been admitted for this Session. As the provisional programme indicates that the Session will be for 13 days, Government will have to furnish answers to about 23 questions for each day of meeting. According to this new procedure therefore all the questions will have been answered by the Government and Hon'ble Members will have the opportunity of putting supplementaries. Questions left over from the list for any day will not, as till now, be carried over to the next day but will lapse though the replies will be printed in that day's proceedings.

I may however state that even under the old system, though all the questions might not have been furnished with answers during the Session, on no day was the question-hour shortened for want of sufficient questions with answers. If questions lapsed at the end of a Session, it was only because a sufficient number of questions were not disposed of during the question-time. If the same practice were to continue, the only result would be that instead of a large number of questions lapsing at the end of the session, a certain number of questions will lapse at the end of each

day. One distinct advantage is that any question which the members feel very important may be taken up and supplementaries put if they so mind.

I would, therefore, appeal to the Hon'ble Members in their own interest and in the interest of quick and efficient despatch of work to assist the Chair in disposing of all or as many as possible of the questions in the daily lists. I may state that in the Parliament of England as many as 45 to 50 questions are disposed of during question-time and nearly as many questions in the Indian Parliament. If Hon'ble Members will kindly remember that question-time is only intended to elicit information and not to carry on a discussion or even to make suggestions to Government and if they would limit their supplementaries only for the purpose of further elucidating any matter of fact regarding which an answer has been given, as stated in Rule 33, I am sure we will be able to finish all the questions in the daily lists and Hon'ble Members whose questions appear at the end of the list will have the satisfaction of having their questions taken up and putting supplementaries if necessary.

I may also invite the reference of all the Hon'ble Members to discussion on any matter of sufficient public importance which has been the subject of a question, which is provided for, for the first time under Rule 39. This new provision should also enable the number of supplementaries being cut short to the barest minimum.

*Mushir-ul-Mulk J. MOHAMED IMAM (Tumkur *cum* Chitaldrug—Muslim).—May I submit one point to the Chair? I agree to the views expressed by the Chair that we must dispose of as many questions as possible and we must cut short our supplementaries to the barest minimum. I had an opportunity of witnessing the proceedings of the Parliament in England and on the day I visited as many as 48 questions were disposed of. If the procedure that was adopted there were to be adopted in this House also, I think that will minimise the number of supplementaries. There as soon as a question is taken up, the Minister or the Secretary concerned makes a full statement regarding the issue raised without concealing any fact. It is on account of that statement a few supplementaries are asked. But here I find very many supplementary questions. That is because the Hon'ble Ministers either hesitate to give full answers or they say that the answer cannot be given in public interest or in the interest of justice or they plead notice.

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA (Minister for Finance and Industries).—That is what the Hon'ble Member was doing perhaps when he was Minister.

Janab J. MOHAMED IMAM.—I was present at the Parliament for two days. I never saw any Minister pleading notice. They give full facts. That is why—they are so businesslike in the Parliament—very few questions are asked. If the same procedure is adopted here also and if they place all the facts before us, it would avoid the asking of more supplementaries; otherwise, I think it will be inevitable for us to take more time.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Mr. SPEAKER (The Hon'ble Sri V. Venkatappa).—Questions for answers will be taken up for one hour.

Off-take figures in 1950 in rationed and non-rationed areas.

Q.—12. Sri M. GOVINDA REDDY (Chitaldrug District—General):—

Will the Government be pleased to state:—

the off-take figures for each month in the year 1950 in (i) statutory rationed area and (ii) in the non-statutory rationed area with rationed population in both the areas for that year?

* Asterisk indicates that the speeches and other observations have not been returned by Members concerned approved.